

**A MOTHER'S DAY POEM FOR MY DEAR CHILDREN; 5-11-08
To Cindy, Cathy, Robert & Donnie**

I am the sum total of all of the parts that made me;
Some good; some not so good.

But the best part of me is being the mother
Of each of you.

Yes, I made mistakes – millions of them;
But having you was not one.

It's ironic that, no matter how a child is treated,
He will continue to love and even protect his mother.

Just listen to the football players who say,
When the camera focuses on them,
“Hi, Mom!”

Thank goodness for memories that fade;
The some that aren't so good,
And for the memories that remain
That are.

When I go to sleep at night;
When I travel, when I write, as I breathe
It is each of you that I picture;
For you are the best part of me.

Bonnie B Shannon PhD